

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
23 June 2005 (23.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/057357 A2**

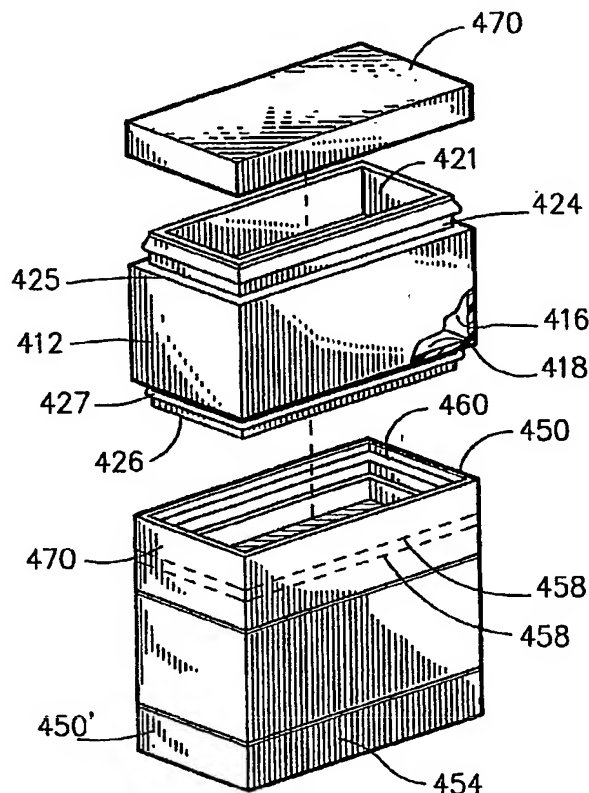
- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G06F**
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/040883
- (22) International Filing Date: 6 December 2004 (06.12.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
60/527,124 4 December 2003 (04.12.2003) US
- (71) Applicants and  
(72) Inventors: SMITH, Sybil [US/US]; 1922 South Queen Drive, Lakewood, CO 80227 (US). SCARLETT, Kaye [US/US]; 4201 Kellwood Drive, Castle Rock, CO 80109 (US).
- (74) Agents: MARTIN, Timothy, J. et al.; Timothy J. Martin, P.C., Suite 200, 9250 West 5th Avenue, Lakewood, CO 80226 (US).

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INVENTORY CONTROL SYSTEM AND METHOD ESPECIALLY FOR PHARMACEUTICALS



(57) Abstract: An inventory control system for items such as pharmaceuticals employs a plurality of receptacles and a lock member to lock an upper receptacle to a lower receptacle together is a stacked array in a joined state to prevent access to items in the interior of the lower receptacle while allowing access to the upper receptacle. The lock member includes a portion that can be separated to release an upper receptacle from a lower receptacle to permit access to contents of the lower receptacle. The receptacles can mate with one another. The lock member can have teeth or ridges that engage teeth or ridges on the receptacles to prevent separation until a tear-away portion is removed. A method of inventory control thus allows storing a bulk quantity of items in selected sub-quantities in each of a plurality of receptacles to permit access only to a selected sub-quantity until exhausted.

WO 2005/057357 A2



**Published:**

- without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*